

(b) REPORT.—Not later than ___ days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall submit a report to Congress setting forth the findings of the audit and investigation conducted under subsection (a).

SNOWE AMENDMENT NO. 1904

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill, S. 82, *supra*; as follows:

At the end of title V of the Manager's substitute amendment, add the following:

SEC. ____ . REQUIREMENT TO ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS OF SLOT EXEMPTIONS FOR REGIONAL JET AIR SERVICE AND NEW ENTRANT AIR CARRIERS AT CERTAIN HIGH DENSITY TRAFFIC AIRPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 417, as amended by sections 507 and 508, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“§41721. Requirement to enhance competitiveness of slot exemptions for nonstop regional jet air service and new entrant air carriers at certain airports

“In granting slot exemptions for nonstop regional jet air service and new entrant air carriers under this subchapter to John F. Kennedy International Airport, and La Guardia Airport, the Secretary of Transportation shall require the Federal Aviation Administration to provide commercially reasonable times to takeoffs and landings of air flights conducted under those exemptions.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for subchapter I of chapter 417, as amended by this title, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“41721. Requirement to enhance competitiveness of slot exemptions for nonstop regional jet air service and new entrant air carriers at certain airports.”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on October 6, 1999 in SR-328A at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss The Science of Biotechnology and its Potential Applications to Agriculture.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on October 7, 1999 in SR-328A at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss The Regulation of Products of Biotechnology and New Challenges Faced By Farmers and Food Business.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREST AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public some changes to the agenda for the hearing that is scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee

on Energy and Natural Resources on Thursday, October 14, 1999 at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

S. 1331, a bill to give Lincoln County, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain public land in the county, has been deleted from the agenda; S. 1343, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest land to Elko County, Nevada, for continued use as a cemetery, has been added to the agenda.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Mike Menge at (202) 224-6170.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

• Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, the Communist party celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the People's Republic of China on October 1. Unfortunately, many Chinese people had little reason to celebrate. Indeed, this was not a celebration of the Chinese people but an orchestrated celebration of the Communist party—a party of purges.

From the formative decade of Yanan, where the party was headquartered, and Mao Tse-tung soundly crushed challenges to his power, to the killing of hundreds of landlords in the 1950s; to the anti-rightist purging of half a million people following the Hundred Flowers period and during the Great Leap Forward; to the Cultural Revolution, during which millions were murdered or died in confinement; to the massacre at Tiananmen square just ten years ago—the Communist party under Mao Tse-tung and Deng Xiaoping sustained its existence not by the consent of the people, but through the violent elimination of dissent.

Even today, we see the party of purges in action on a daily basis. The Communist party under Jiang Zemin is deeply engaged in a piercing campaign to silence the voices of faith and freedom—to purge from society, anyone they see as a threat to their power. The Chinese government continues to imprison members of the Chinese Democracy Party. In August, the government sentenced Liu Xianbin to thirteen years in prison on charges of subversion. His real crime was his desire for democracy. Another Democracy Party member, Mao Qingxiang, was formally arrested in September after being held in detention since June. He will likely languish in prison for ten years because of his desire to be free. I could go on, but some human rights groups estimate that there could be as many as 10,000 political prisoners suf-

fering in Chinese prisons. The party is determined to purge from society those people it finds unsavory.

And the Chinese government will not tolerate people worshipping outside its official churches. So when it began cracking down on the Falun Gong meditation group, which it considers a cult, the government used this inexcusable action to perpetrate another—an intensified assault on Christians. In August, the government arrested thirty-one Christian house church members in Henan province. Henan province must be a wellspring of faith because over 230 Christians have been arrested there since October. Now I am concerned that eight of these House church leaders may face execution if they are labeled and treated as leaders of a cult. Let me say clearly and unequivocally that the eyes of the international community are watching. I hope that these peaceful people will be released.

In the months leading up to this fiftieth anniversary celebration, everything and everyone were swept aside to cast a glamorous light on the Communist party. But the reality was quite ugly. Hundreds of street children, homeless, and mentally and physically disabled people were rounded up and forced into Custody and Repatriation centers across the country. There they were beaten, they were given poor food in unsanitary conditions, and they had to pay rent.

In fact, only 500,000 carefully selected citizens were allowed to participate in the celebration in Beijing. Non-Beijing residents could not enter the city and migrant workers were sent home. They did not see the Communist Party in all its glory, as it displayed the DF-31 intercontinental ballistic missile and other arms, nor did they see the tanks rolling past Tiananmen Square. And Tibetans in Lhasa, who certainly did not want to celebrate, were forced to participate under threat of losing their pay or their pensions. Mr. President, this was a celebration of the party, not the people.

But this gilded celebration will not obscure the corrosion beneath. We must recognize the nature of this corrupt regime. We must never turn a blind eye or a deaf ear to cries of those suffering in China. We must face reality when we deal with the Chinese government.

So when Time Warner chairman Gerald Levin courts President Jiang Zemin even when Time Magazine's China issue is banned, when our top executives are silent on human rights, when we put profit over principle, we are shielding our eyes from the stark reality of persecution in China. As Ronald Reagan said, “. . . we demean the valor of every person who struggles for human dignity and freedom. And we also demean all those who have given that last full measure of devotion.”